

Whitwell

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
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BOROUGH OF



LLANIDLOES.

Report of Medical Officer

FOR YEAR 1937.

CASTLE HOUSE,
LLANIDLOES,

31st July, 1938.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN & COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF LLANIDLOES.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1937.

STATISTICAL SURVEY.

Area of Borough, 617 acres.

Population, 2342.

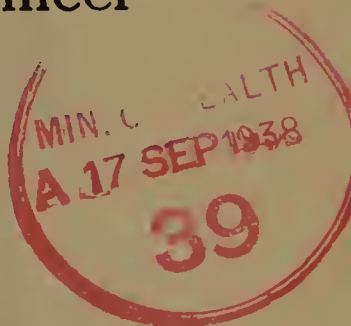
Number of Inhabited Houses, 851.

Rateable Value, £7344.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £27.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Llanidloes is the first town on the River Severn, situated in a valley surrounded by well wooded hills. The industries of the town include leather manufacturing, engineering, and wool sorting. The first two industries employ a large number of hands.



VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

			Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births	...	...	21	13	34
Legitimate	...	...	19	13	32
Illegitimate	...	...	2	—	2

This gives a Birth Rate of 14'22 per 1000 population. The rate for England and Wales being 14'9 per 1000 population.

STILL BIRTHS.

			Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	1	—	1
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—

The Rate is 0'35 per 1000 population. England and Wales having a Rate of 0'60 per 1000 population.

DEATHS.

During the year there occurred 33 deaths in the Borough—some of these were resident outside the area and had died at the local hospital. The total deaths of residents, including those who had died away from the town at institutions, such as sanatoria, etc., was 28, 12 males and 16 females, giving a Death Rate of 10'13 per 1000 population, that for England and Wales being 12'4 per 1000 population.

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.

			Male	Female.	Total.
Digestive Diseases	...	...	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	1	3	4
Congenital Debility (Prematurity)	...	...	—	—	—
Senility	...	...	—	—	—
Violence	...	...	—	—	—
Defined Diseases	...	...	2	2	4
Cerebral Hemorrhage	...	...	—	3	3
Heart Disease	...	...	2	1	3
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	1	2	3
Bronchitis	...	...	2	—	2
Pneumonia Influenza	...	...	—	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	—	—	—
Cancer	...	...	2	3	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	2	1	3
			12	16	28

AGE PERIODS AT DEATH.

0 to 1 year	...	...	...	—	—	—
1 year to 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—
5 " " 15 " "	...	...	...	—	—	—
15 " " 25 " "	...	...	...	—	—	—
25 " " 35 " "	...	...	...	—	1	1
35 " " 45 " "	...	...	...	3	1	4
45 " " 55 " "	...	...	...	—	2	2
55 " " 65 " "	...	...	...	1	4	5
65 " " 75 " "	...	...	...	6	4	10
75 " " 85 " "	...	...	...	2	2	4
85 years and over	...	...	...	—	2	2
				—	—	—
				12	16	28

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There was not a death in an infant under one year of age. The infantile mortality for England and Wales during the year was 58 per 1000 Live Births.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year the only infectious disease notified was one case of Pneumonia. The incidence being 0·43 per 1000 population. England and Wales being 1·36 per 1000 population.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year there was only one notification received, and that of a case of Pneumonia, giving an incidence rate of '43 per 1000 population, that for England and Wales being 1·36 per 1000 population.

LLANIDLOES URBAN DISTRICT, 1937.

Patients who received treatment in Hospital and Sanatoria during the year 1937:—

In residence January 1st, 1937	...	3
Admitted during 1937	...	7
Discharged during 1937	...	4
In residence January 1st, 1938	...	6

Of the four discharged three improved ; one died.

Those discharged had between them a total of 170 weeks of treatment in the Institutions of the Association.

Tuberculosis is dealt with by the Welsh National Memorial Association, whose physician, Dr. T. W. Davies, examines and treats all cases sent to him by the practitioners of the county and the School Medical Officer. He also attends at the Girls' Club Room, Long Bridge Street, on the last Sunday of the month at 10 a.m. to examine and follow up old cases. He also examines all those who have been in close contact with cases of tuberculosis. Cases of tuberculosis who are too ill to attend this Clinic are visited in their homes by Dr. T. W. Davies in company with the patient's medical attendant. Patients advised X-Ray examination by the Tuberculosis Officer are X-Rayed at the Welsh National Memorial Hospital each Wednesday morning, free of charge. Other forms of treatment for tuberculosis, viz., artificial sunlight treatment are available for such out-patients. Surgical Tuberculosis After-Care Clinics are held every two months at Newtown. A surgeon comes from the North Wales Sanatorium at Llangwyfan, accompanied by Dr. T. W. Davies, to examine old patients—to adjust appliances and splints, and to examine new or suspected cases referred by the practitioners to this Clinic.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculosis employees in the milk trade, neither was any action taken under any Section of the above Regulations (Section 62 included).

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There is no Fever Isolation Hospital in the Borough. The County Council, however, have an arrangement with the Shropshire County Council whereby cases of infectious fevers can be admitted to one or other of their Isolation Hospitals.

SCHOOLS.—The Schools have been regularly inspected and on the whole were found to be in a satisfactory sanitary condition. The water supply is quite adequate and meets with the needs of the respective schools.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.—The Public Health Staff of the Council consist of a full time Sanitary Inspector, Mr. A. C. James, M.I.M. & Cy. E., M.R.S.I., and a part time Medical Officer of Health.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.—The Nursing arrangements of the Borough are in the hands of the Llanidloes District Nursing Association. This is an entirely voluntary organisation and is affiliated to the Montgomeryshire District Nursing Association. This association employs a district nurse who attends all maternity cases within the borough and in the immediate surrounding district. She also acts as Health Visitor, attends the schools with the School Medical Officer and attends at the Tuberculous Clinic which is held once a month. The District Nurse is not allowed to take charge of any case of infectious disease.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.—By arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health, all bacteriological and pathological specimens; milk, foodstuffs and water; are examined by the Public Health Laboratory, at 146, High Street, Manchester.

DIPHTHERIA.—Anti-toxin is kept in stock at the local chemists.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE IN THE AREA.—None.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.—The Llanidloes War Memorial Hospital is inside the Borough. There are 12 beds: 5 male, 5 female, 2 children. In addition there is a separate maternity wing with accommodation for 3 patients. The Hospital does not deal with cases of infectious disease.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES—None.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

- (a) *Infant Welfare*: The County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. E. W. Richards, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., visits the town once a month to hold an Infant Welfare Clinic. Advice is given to mothers on the care and feeding of infants. There is no ante-natal work done at the clinic.
- (b) *Tuberculosis Clinic*: This is fully dealt with in another part of this report.

- (c) *Venereal Diseases* : All cases are sent to the Shropshire Clinic at 1, Belmont, Shrewsbury, by arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health. All treatment at this Clinic is free, and the travelling expenses of those in poor circumstances are paid. The hours of attendance at the Clinic are :—

Males : 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays.

Females : 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays.

These Clinics are open to all who seek advice without necessarily having to seek advice from a medical practitioner.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.—The supply from Cwmpenllydan and Nantigeifr reservoirs has been satisfactory. The gathering grounds, the area in close proximity to the reservoirs, the screening plant, and the supply pipes have received continuous attention. In October three samples were taken for analysis, one from the intake stream, one from the filter bed, and one from a house tap. The results of the two latter were satisfactory, but the first was not so good. I assume that the effect of sunlight upon the stored water proved beneficial.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—There has been no change in the present system, which continues satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—During the year there has been no sign of pollution.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—The large number of communal closets is very unsatisfactory. A large number of these are in areas which come within Schemes for Clearance, and eventually will be cleared away.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—Dry house refuse collection is carried on as in previous years, one collection weekly with an uncovered motor lorry. It is very desirable that a properly covered low loading vehicle should be used for the purpose to prevent the dust and refuse being blown about during collection. During the year 1664 cubic yards of material was collected and deposited in a dingle within the Borough area, where constant attention is given to prevent nuisances.

SHOPS.—Constant attention is given to all premises where food is prepared and sold. Satisfactory ventilation, sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness have been well maintained.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—No complaints.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—None.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—No action taken.

ASHPITS AND PRIVIES.—Nil.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—Nil.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—Nil.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911—1923.—Nil.

MARKETS & SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

PRIVATE—2.

These were regularly inspected during the year and were generally found well kept. The meat supplied has continued to be of exceedingly good quality and singularly free from disease. It was not found necessary to condemn any whole carcase, only a few of the internal organs such as :—

Bovine Liver	...	9, weight	90 lbs.
„ Lungs	...	7, „	42 „
Sheep's Liver	...	3, „	4½ „
„ Lungs	...	8, „	28 „

One notice was served to carry out lime-washing and minor repairs, which was complied with.

COWSHEDS & DAIRIES.

Total number on Register, January, 1937	...	...	18
Total number of Producers (Retailers)	...	...	17
Total number of Producers not Retailing	...	...	1
Total number whose premises are in Borough Area	...	...	4
Total number whose premises are in Rural Area	...	...	14
Total number removed from Register because of being unsatisfactory	...	...	1
Number of Cows from which Milk is supplied :—			
Borough Area	...	...	21
Rural Area	...	...	50
Number of Inspections made	...	...	15
Number of Notices served on 3 Cowkeepers	...	...	6
Number of Notices complied with	...	...	6

SCHOOLS.

Intermediate	1
Public Elementary	2
Private	1

These are well kept and clean.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA FOR
NUISANCES.

Inspections made	39
Nuisances found	17
Drains Choked... ..	6
Drains Defective	5
W.Cs. Defective	4
Accumulation of Refuse	2
Informal Notices Served	17
Informal Notices Complied with	16
Statutory Notices Served	1
Statutory Notices Complied with	Nil
Proceedings taken to Abate Nuisance	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of Cases Notified	Nil
Premises Disinfected after Death from Tuberculosis	2

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Number of Factories Registered	19
Number of Workshops Registered	12
Number of Workplaces Registered	Nil
Number of Factory Bakehouses	3
Number of other Bakehouses	4
Number of Inspections made	37
Number of Defects found	3
Number of Notices served	3
Number of Notices complied with	1

HOUSING.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING 1937 :—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 120
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... 120

2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 75

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... 75

3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 105

NOTE.—Of the above total, 27 are back to back houses, which so far have not been condemned. Also of the total number of 105, 57 houses have been submitted for clearance and are now waiting the result of the Ministry Inquiry into same. Also two houses of the 105 have been served with Demolition Orders:

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not to be found in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 26

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers Nil

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 7

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices 7

(a) By Owners 7

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 19

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice 11

(a) By Owners 11

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1916.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of Demolition Orders were made 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4.—HOUSING ACT 1936. PART 4. OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 12

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 14

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 69

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases Nil

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... Nil

The whole of the sections of this report dealing with the Sanitary circumstances and Housing have been prepared by Mr. A. C. James, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, to whom I take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude. I wish also to thank Mr. George, the Finance Officer, for the figures of the Statistical Survey which he so kindly supplied.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAHAM DAVIES,

Medical Officer of Health.

